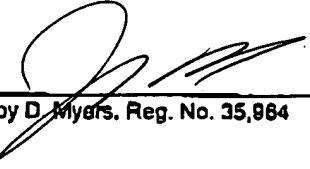


PATENT APPLICATION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on 5/24, 2005.


Jelroy D. Myers, Reg. No. 35,884

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: John G. Hughes

Examiner: R. Pang

Serial No. 10/670,609

Group Art Unit: 3681

Filed: September 25, 2003

For: ACTIVE DAMPER FOR STABILIZED
MIRRORS

DECLARATION OF JOHN G. HUGHES UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.68

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

John G. Hughes declares as follows:

1. I am the inventor of the subject matter of the above-identified patent application.
2. Prior to July 18, 2001, I submitted the document attached as Exhibit A to my employer in Florida, Lockheed Martin Corporation. A Matrixx/Matlab simulation was performed testing the invention, a diagram for which was and is attached to Exhibit A.
3. I then worked diligently with my employer to actually reduce the invention to practice. An electrical schematic is shown in Fig. 5 of the present application. A device according to that schematic was fielded on an actual FLIR system on or about June 2004.
4. Furthermore, after July 18, 2001, I worked diligently with my employer to file a patent application concerning the invention on September 25, 2003. The invention was submitted to outside patent counsel in New Mexico on or about September 30, 2002. I subsequently worked with patent counsel to produce a more detailed rendering of the Matrixx/Matlab simulation, which is reflected in

PATENT Ser. No. 09/868,408

Figs. 1A, 1B, 2A, 2B, 3, and 4 of the present application, as well as the preparation of the specification and claims of the application.

5. I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the above-referenced application or any patent issuing thereon.

Date: May 19, 2005


John G. Hughes

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